

# House File 2350 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2350  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2176)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring school employee training and protocols  
2 relating to suicide prevention and trauma-informed care.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, Code 2018, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 33. *a.* For purposes of this subsection:

4 (1) "*Postvention*" means the same as defined in section  
5 279.70.

6 (2) "*Trauma-informed care*" means the same as defined in  
7 section 279.70.

8 *b.* Adopt rules to require school districts to adopt  
9 protocols for suicide prevention and postvention and  
10 trauma-informed care. The protocols shall be based on  
11 nationally recognized best practices.

12 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 279.70 **Suicide prevention and**  
13 **trauma-informed care training.**

14 1. For purposes of this section, unless the context  
15 otherwise requires:

16 *a.* "*Postvention*" means the provision of crisis intervention,  
17 support, and assistance for those affected by a suicide or  
18 suicide attempt to prevent further risk of suicide.

19 *b.* "*Trauma-informed care*" means services that are based  
20 on an understanding of the vulnerabilities and triggers of  
21 individuals who have experienced trauma, recognize the role  
22 trauma has played in the lives of those individuals, recognize  
23 the presence and onset of trauma symptoms, are supportive of  
24 trauma recovery, and avoid further traumatization.

25 2. By July 1, 2019, the board of directors of a school  
26 district shall integrate annual, evidence-based training at  
27 least one hour in length on suicide prevention and postvention  
28 for all school personnel who hold a license, certificate,  
29 authorization, or statement of recognition issued by the  
30 board of educational examiners and who have regular contact  
31 with students in grades six through twelve into the school  
32 district's comprehensive school improvement plan submitted  
33 pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 21. The content of  
34 the training shall be based on nationally recognized best  
35 practices.



1     The bill requires the department of education to adopt rules  
2 to require school districts to adopt protocols for suicide  
3 prevention and postvention and trauma-informed care based on  
4 nationally recognized best practices. The bill requires the  
5 board to submit a notice of intended action to begin such  
6 rulemaking no later than December 12, 2018, and to adopt such  
7 rules not later than July 1, 2019.

8     The bill defines "trauma-informed care" as services that are  
9 based on an understanding of the vulnerabilities and triggers  
10 of individuals who have experienced trauma, recognize the role  
11 trauma has played in the lives of those individuals, recognize  
12 the presence and onset of trauma symptoms, are supportive of  
13 trauma recovery, and avoid further traumatization. The bill  
14 defines "postvention" as the provision of crisis intervention,  
15 support, and assistance for those affected by a suicide or  
16 suicide attempt to prevent further risk of suicide.

17     The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
18 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,  
19 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from  
20 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of  
21 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,  
22 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state  
23 mandate included in the bill.